

From: [Hubbard, Joseph](#) on behalf of [R6Press](#)
Subject: Daily News Digest, Wednesday, Nov 19
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1 – EPA raises environmental justice, emissions concerns with Corpus Christi LNG project, Energy Wire, 11/19/2014

<http://www.eenews.net/energywire/2014/11/19/stories/1060009169>

Federal regulators last month gave the thumbs-up to a new liquefied natural gas export terminal proposed for construction in Corpus Christi, Texas, but the regional U.S. EPA office this week noted its continued concerns about the project, aligning itself with environmentalists who argue that natural gas exports should be weighed in light of their full life-cycle carbon footprint.

2 – Texas plant where workers died has long history of violations, Greenwire, 11/18/14

<http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/2014/11/18/stories/1060009133>

Federal officials held their first meetings with DuPont Co. representatives yesterday as they work to piece together the cause of a chemical leak at the company's La Porte, Texas, plant that killed four workers Saturday.

3 – Federal regulator warns reversing pipeline flow to handle new oil, gas could result in spill, website reports, Times Picayune, 11/18/2014

http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2014/11/federal_pipeline_regulator_war.html#incart_river

Even as the U.S. Senate considers a vote on building the controversial Keystone XL oil pipeline from Canada to the U.S., the federal agency that regulates pipelines is warning that a new money-saving trend of reversing the flow of oil and natural gas in existing pipelines or changing the product they carry could threaten the pipelines' safety, according to InsideClimate News.

4 – Senate Defeats Bill on Keystone XL Pipeline in Narrow Vote, NY Times, 11/18/14

<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/11/19/us/politics/keystone-xl-pipeline.html>

Senate Democrats, by a single vote, stopped legislation that would have approved construction of the Keystone XL pipeline, one of the most fractious and expensive battles of the Obama presidency.

5 – Gila contract improper, diversion opponent says, Albuquerque Journal, 11/19/2014

<http://www.abqjournal.com/498280/news/gila-contract-improper-diversion-opponent-says.html>

The staff of the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission signed a \$500,000 engineering contract for work on a proposed Gila River water diversion project without getting approval in a public meeting, according to documents made public in an open meetings lawsuit. Craig Roepke, a staff member working on the controversial Gila project, signed the contract with Albuquerque engineering firm Bohannon Huston Inc. on May 2, 2012, according to documents provided by the state to attorneys for project opponent Norm Gaume.

6 – Mapping DuPont's Deadly Chemical Leak, Center for Effective Government, 11/18/2014

<http://www.foreffectivegov.org/node/13282>

On Saturday, Nov. 15, a toxic chemical leak at a DuPont manufacturing plant outside of Houston killed four workers and hospitalized another, serving as another troubling example of the need for stronger chemical safety standards. The chemical involved in the leak, methyl mercaptan, can cause eye and lung irritation and can be fatal at high levels. Numerous other U.S. facilities use and store this chemical,



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including those featured in a new interactive map by the Center for Effective Government.

7 – Texas Grid Operator Says Clean Energy Plan Could Raise Bills and Lead to Blackouts, NPR, 11/18/2014

<http://stateimpact.npr.org/texas/2014/11/18/texas-grid-operator-says-clean-energy-plan-could-raise-bills-and-lead-to-blackouts/>

The clean energy plan put forth by the Environmental Protection Agency aims to combat climate change by reducing the amount of carbon dioxide emitted by power plants. But it may come at a price, according to a report released Monday by the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, the group that manages much of Texas electric grid.

8 – Residents talk lake's future in Calhoun County, Victoria Advocate, 11/18/2014

<http://www.victoriaadvocate.com/news/2014/nov/18/residents-talk-lakes-future-in-calhoun-county/>

Calhoun County residents were given the opportunity to voice their say in how Green Lake will be used at public meetings held Monday and Tuesday nights. The county purchased the 6,400-acre Green Lake property with two grants totaling \$3.5 million from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in December 2012.

9 - System cleaning byproducts found in Calhoun County water, Victoria Advocate, 11/14/2014

<http://www.victoriaadvocate.com/news/2014/nov/14/system-cleaning-byproducts-found-in-calhoun-county/>

The state environmental agency found an excess of cleaning byproducts in Port O'Connor and Port Lavaca drinking water supplied by Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority. The state environmental agency's water sample was taken shortly after a one-month period when the river authority alternated its disinfection method, according to a letter to GBRA customers.

10 – White House clears EPA rewrite of hazardous waste rule, The Hill, 11/18/2014

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/224538-white-house-clears-epa-rewrite-of-hazardous-waste-rule>

The White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved a regulation that seeks to strengthen federal standards for recycling hazardous waste. The rule to change the definition of solid waste under the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) standards would partially roll back a 2008 rule from the final months of the Bush administration.

11- Farmington officials say city power plants not violating Clean Water Act, Abq Journal, 11/18/2014

<http://www.abqjournal.com/497842/news/farmington-officials-say-city-power-plants-not-violating-clean-water-act.html>

Environmental Protection Agency officials have not yet said whether two Farmington power plants are violating federal laws. Although the plants are listed on an agency database as not being in compliance, city officials say the listings are wrong. "We're convinced, beyond the shadow of a doubt, it's an error on the EPA's database," said Michael Sims, Farmington Electric Utility System director.

12- ERCOT wants 'safety valve' in EPA plan, Star-telegram, 11/18/2014

<http://www.star-telegram.com/2014/11/18/6299242/ercot-wants-safety-valve-in-epa.html?rh=1>

Top Texas officials have already decried the Environmental Protection Agency's proposed Clean Power Plan rules aimed at reducing carbon dioxide emissions from power plants, so it's no surprise that the

state's main power grid operator has chimed in. A report Monday from the Electric Reliability Council of Texas showed a bunch of alarming negatives, including a prediction that the plan would cause power costs for consumers to increase 20 percent or more by 2020.